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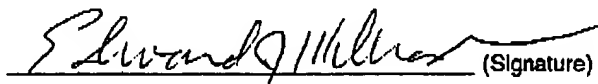
**FACSIMILE TRANSMITTAL SHEET AND
CERTIFICATE OF TRANSMISSION UNDER 37 CFR 1.8**

**TO: Box AF, Assistant Commissioner for Patents - United States Patent
and Trademark Office**
Examiner: Michele Kidwell

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Listed below are the item(s) being submitted with
this Certificate of Transmission:**

1) Response to Office Action (14 pages)

Number of Pages Including this Page: 16

Inventor(s): Sprengard-Eichel, et al.

S.N.: 09/778,371

Confirmation No.: 6846

Filed: February 7, 2001

Case: 8369Q

Comments:**FAX RECEIVED**

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GROUP 3700

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Case 8369Q

Reply Under 37 CFR § 1.116

Expedited Procedure

Technology Center 3700

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of: :
Sprengard-Eichel, et al. : Confirmation No.: 6846
Serial No.: 09/778,371 : Group Art Unit: 3761
Filed: February 7, 2001 : Examiner: M. Kidwell
Title: ABSORBENT ARTICLE WITH THERMAL CELL ACTUATOR

12/C
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RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION UNDER 37 CFR § 1.116

Box AF
Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

This is responsive to the Final Office action mailed on January 30, 2003, the Applicants hereby respectfully request further examination and reconsideration in view of the following amendments and remarks. This response is submitted under 37 CFR § 1.116 in order to place the application in condition for allowance and uses the revised amendment format recently promulgated.

In the claims, please amend the claims according to the entire set of pending claims beginning on page 2 of this paper.

Please consider the remarks and arguments beginning on page 6 of this paper.